14: Tamai--96 [22] J-2 (1896) 1896 Formosan Aborigines
116, 435, 823, 822 Chin-hoan

The Tschinwans are extremely greedy. The objects they covet most are any article with a red color and articles made of metal. For that reason they value coins highly but paper money has no meaning to them.

39: Wiedfeldt--10 F-3 (1913) 1917 Formosan Aborigines
116, 314, 804, 822 Atayal

One may judge with a greater degree of certainty the intellectual capacity of the seemingly alert Atayal. They have a concept of space and measurement of space. As a measure of length, which they need in building their houses and in weaving, they use the measures provided by nature, i.e. the ell and the arm span with both arms outstretched. They have no means of measuring an area or a weight. They speak of a large field, or a heavy antelope, but they are unable to be more specific about it. As dry measure they use the men's caps, if, for example, one neighbor helps another out with a cap full of millet or salt. For gunpowder they are said to have recently begun to use bamboo sticks a span long.

39: Wiedfeldt--10-11 F-3 (1913) 1917 Formosan Aborigines
116, 241, 581, 805, 822 Atayal

The concept of time... is not strange to the Atayals, although they also lack a system of measuring time. They have no word or idea for month or for day. They only have two designations for hot time and cool time. Some tribes have words for sunrise, the zenith of the sun, and sunset, but as far as I have been able to ascertain they have no word for midnight. [11] For their practical needs they make use of other means. The length of time that it is possible to plant a field is given in the terms of the number of harvests obtained from the field. Since none of them know how old they are, marriageability is indicated by tattooing. When I asked if one could give his age according to the number of harvests, there being only one harvest a year, I was always told... that one could only obtain three harvests from one field, and that their people had experienced many more harvests. In summoning their clan and tribal assemblies, as well as in negotiations with the Japanese, the day is fixed according to the number of times they would normally sleep up to that time, and by the nodes in a bamboo staff, or the Japanese indicate the time by the knots in a string. According to the Japanese, it is not unusual for an Atayal to turn up a day early, because, for example, he slept twice in one day when he was hunting, and hence had counted two knots. Harvest time is easily recognized by the ripening of the fruit. The time to plant millet is determined according to the time when the Formosa maple has young red shoots... Rice is planted when the tse-tung-non, a tree of average size, is covered with white blossoms.